

ABSTRACT

A consumable order-assistance system is provided for computer peripheral devices. The system includes a personal computer, at least one computer peripheral device, and a user interaction site. The personal computer has a messaging system. The at least one computer peripheral device has a messaging system. The communication link signal couples the personal computer with a provider of a consumable for the computer peripheral device. The user interaction site is configured to receive a notification from the computer peripheral device via the messaging system of a need to order a consumable. The user interaction site is provided within one of: a single-connection environment as an end user interface; an unmanaged network environment as a workgroup administrator interface; and a server-based centralized network environment as a centralized system administrator interface. A method is also provided.